Please amend the claims as follows:

Please amend claims 54, 55, 57-59, and 66.

Please cancel claims 56, 61, 64, 65, and 67.

Please add new claims 68-87.

54. **(Currently amended)** A method for inhibiting lymphotoxin-β-receptor (LT-β-R) signaling ~~without inhibiting TNF-R signaling~~ in a subject comprising ~~the step of~~ administering to the ~~a~~ subject an effective amount of an LT-β-R blocking agent.

55. **(Currently amended)** The method according to claim 54, wherein the LT-β-R blocking agent is selected from the group consisting of a soluble LT-β-R ~~lymphotoxin-β receptor~~, an antibody directed against LT-β-R ~~receptor~~, and an antibody directed against surface LT ligand.

56. **(Cancel)**

57. **(Currently amended)** The method according to claim 54 ~~56~~, wherein the subject ~~mammal~~ is a human.

58. **(Currently amended)** The method according to claim 54, wherein the LT-β-R blocking agent comprises a soluble LT-β-R ~~lymphotoxin-β receptor~~ having a ligand binding domain that can selectively bind to a surface LT ligand.

59. **(Currently amended)** The method according to claim 54 ~~58~~, wherein the ~~soluble~~ LT-β-R blocking agent comprises a soluble LT-β-R ~~lymphotoxin-β receptor~~ further comprising ~~comprises~~ a human immunoglobulin Fc domain.

60. **(Original)** The method according to claim 54, wherein the LT-β-R blocking agent comprises a monoclonal antibody directed against LT-β-R ~~receptor~~.

61. **(Cancel)**

62. **(Original)** The method according to claim 54, wherein the LT-β-R blocking agent comprises a monoclonal antibody directed against surface LT ligand.

63. **(Original)** The method according to claim 62, wherein the antibody is directed against a subunit of the LT ligand.

64. **(Cancel)**

65. **(Cancel)**

66. **(Currently amended)** The method according to claim 58 ~~60~~, wherein the soluble LT-β-R is administered in an amount sufficient to coat LT-β receptor-positive cells for 1 to 14 days.

67. **(Cancel)**

68. **(New)** The method according to claim 58, wherein the soluble LT-β-R is administered to the subject at a dose of about 1 mg/kg.

69. **(New)** The method according to claim 58, wherein the soluble LT-β-R is administered to the subject via oral administration or parenteral administration.

70. **(New)** The method according to claim 58, wherein the soluble LT-β-R is administered via parenteral administration selected from the group consisting of subcutaneous administration, intravenous administration, and intralesional administration.

71. **(New)** A method for inhibiting lymphotoxin-β receptor (LT-β-R) signaling in a subject comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of an LT-β-R blocking agent comprising a soluble LT-β-R fused to one or more heterologous protein domains.

72. **(New)** The method according to claim 71, wherein the heterologous protein domain comprises a human immunoglobulin Fc domain.

73. **(New)** The method according to claim 71, wherein the soluble LT-β-R comprises a functional sequence of amino acids selected from the amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 1.

74. **(New)** The method according to claim 73, wherein the soluble LT-β-R further comprises a human immunoglobulin Fc domain.

75. **(New)** The method according to claim 74, wherein the soluble LT-β-R is administered to the subject at a dose of about 1 mg/kg.

76. **(New)** The method according to claim 74, wherein the soluble LT-β-R is administered to the subject via oral administration or parenteral administration.

77. **(New)** The method according to claim 74, wherein the soluble LT-β-R is administered via parenteral administration selected from the group consisting of subcutaneous administration, intravenous administration, and intralesional administration.

78. **(New)** The method according to claim 71, wherein the subject has an autoimmune disorder or a chronic inflammatory disorder.

79. **(New)** The method according to claim 78, wherein the autoimmune disorder is selected from the group consisting of psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes mellitus, multiple sclerosis, sympathetic ophthalmia, and uveitis.

80. **(New)** The method according to claim 78, wherein the chronic inflammatory disorder is selected from the group consisting of inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease, and ulcerative colitis.

81. **(New)** A method for inhibiting lymphotoxin-β receptor (LT-β-R) signaling in a subject comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of an LT-β-R blocking agent comprising a soluble LT-β-R fused to a human immunoglobulin Fc domain, wherein the soluble LT-β-R consists essentially of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

82. **(New)** The method according to claim 81, wherein the soluble LT-β-R is administered to the subject at a dose of about 1 mg/kg.

83. **(New)** The method according to claim 81, wherein the soluble LT-β-R is administered to the subject via oral administration or parenteral administration.

84. **(New)** The method according to claim 81, wherein the soluble LT-β-R is administered via parenteral administration selected from the group consisting of subcutaneous administration, intravenous administration, and intralesional administration.

85. **(New)** The method according to claim 81, wherein the subject has an autoimmune disorder or a chronic inflammatory disorder.

86. **(New)** The method according to claim 85, wherein the autoimmune disorder is selected from the group consisting of psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes mellitus, multiple sclerosis, sympathetic ophthalmia, and uveitis.

87. **(New)** The method according to claim 85, wherein the chronic inflammatory disorder is selected from the group consisting of inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease, and ulcerative colitis.